



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

# Press Release

Allison Fore

Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer

312.751.6633

public.affairs@mwr.org

100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

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## Governor Quinn Announces Chicago Clean Water Project to Create More Than 300 Jobs

Illinois Clean Water Initiative will invest additional \$25 million to upgrade Chicago water pipelines and mains

Governor Pat Quinn today awarded a \$25 million low-interest loan to the City of Chicago to be used to replace more than 18 additional miles of water pipes throughout the city. This announcement is part of Governor Quinn's agenda to drive Illinois' economy forward and protect the environment by modernizing Illinois' water infrastructure. Funded through Governor Quinn's \$1 billion Illinois Clean Water Initiative, the project will help meet the clean water needs of 5.2 million area residents and create more than 300 direct and indirect jobs.

"By ensuring the people of Chicago have modern water systems and access to clean water where they live and work, we can support our economy and strengthen Illinois for the future," Governor Quinn said. "Projects like this create jobs now and will serve as an economic engine throughout the region for generations to come."

In January, Governor Quinn awarded \$15 million for the first Chicago project of his \$1 billion Illinois Clean Water Initiative to the Chicago Dept. of Water Management (DWM) to support its Water Main Replacement program. To date, Governor Quinn's Clean Water Initiative has funded projects totaling \$412.3 million across Illinois for both drinking and waste water needs.

Governor Quinn launched the \$1 billion Illinois Clean Water Initiative in his 2012 State of the State Address to help local governments facing a critical need to overhaul aging drinking water and wastewater treatment plants and distribution and collection systems. The ICWI is funded with annual federal grants, funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and additional principal and interest from loan repayments. No new state tax dollars are used. To learn more about Governor Quinn's Illinois Clean Water Initiative, visit [www.CleanWater.Illinois.gov](http://www.CleanWater.Illinois.gov).

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*MWRD Exec. Director David St. Pierre, Pres. Kathleen Meany, Vice Pres. Barbara McGowan, Chairman of Finance Mariyana Spyropoulos and Commissioner Kari Steele participated in the Governor's Illinois Clean Water Initiative press conference today on the south side of Chicago.*

*Photo courtesy of the Governor's Facebook page.*